

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for promoting healing of damaged tissue after an open heart surgery, the method comprising:
providing a substantially planar healing membrane, which is:
 - (a) substantially-smooth on at least one side;
 - (b) substantially uniform in composition;
 - (c) about 10 microns to about 300 microns in thickness;
 - (d) non-porous;
 - (e) constructed from a resorbable polymer base material selected from the group consisting essentially of (a) a poly-lactide polymer, (b) a copolymer of lactides, and (c) a poly-lactide polymer and a copolymer of lactides, the resorbable polymer base material being a poly-lactide polymer and a copolymer of lactides, and the poly-lactide polymer and copolymer of lactides being 70:30 poly (L-lactide-co-D,L-lactide); and
 - (f) adapted to be resorbed into the mammalian body within a period of approximately 18 to 24 months from an initial implantation of the membrane into the mammalian body; and
placing the healing membrane adjacent to an opening in pericardial tissue of a patient so that the pericardial tissue surrounding the opening can regenerate over the membrane.
2. Cancelled.
3. (Currently Amended) A method for promoting healing of damaged tissue after an open heart surgery, the method comprising:
providing a substantially planar healing membrane, which is:
 - (a) substantially-smooth on at least one side;
 - (b) substantially uniform in composition;
 - (c) about 10 microns to about 300 microns in thickness;

- (d) non-porous;
 - (e) constructed from a resorbable polymer base material selected from the group consisting essentially of (a) a poly-lactide polymer, (b) a copolymer of lactides, and (c) a poly-lactide polymer and a copolymer of lactides, the resorbable polymer base material being a poly-lactide polymer and the poly-lactide polymer being poly-L-lactide; and
 - (f) adapted to be resorbed into the mammalian body within a period of approximately 18 to 24 months from an initial implantation of the membrane into the mammalian body; and
placing the healing membrane adjacent to an opening in pericardial tissue of a patient so that the pericardial tissue surrounding the opening can regenerate over the membrane.
4. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the thickness of the membrane is about 100 microns.
5. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the thickness of the membrane is about 200 microns.
6. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the healing membrane is provided in a sterile packaging.
7. (Previously Presented) A method for promoting healing of damaged tissue after an open heart surgery, the method comprising:
providing a substantially planar healing membrane, which is:
- (a) substantially-smooth on at least one side;
 - (b) substantially uniform in composition;
 - (c) about 10 microns to about 300 microns in thickness;
 - (d) non-porous;
 - (e) constructed from a resorbable polymer base material selected from the group consisting essentially of (a) a poly-lactide polymer, (b) a copolymer of lactides, and (c) a poly-lactide polymer and a copolymer of lactides; and
 - (f) adapted to be resorbed into the mammalian body within a period of approximately 18 to 24 months from an initial implantation of the membrane into the mammalian body; and
placing the healing membrane adjacent to an opening in pericardial tissue of a patient so that the pericardial tissue surrounding the opening can regenerate over the membrane, the placing of the healing membrane in a patient is being effective to attenuate formation of scar tissue.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the step of placing the healing membrane in a patient is effective to attenuate tissue adhesion.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising a step of attaching the healing membrane to the pericardial tissue.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein the attaching step comprises heat bonding the membrane to the pericardial tissue.

11. (Currently Amended) A method for promoting healing of damaged tissue after an open heart surgery, the method comprising:

providing a substantially planar healing membrane, which is:

- (a) substantially-smooth on at least one side;
- (b) substantially uniform in composition;
- (c) about 10 microns to about 300 microns in thickness;
- (d) non-porous;
- (e) constructed from a resorbable polymer base material selected from the group consisting essentially of (a) a poly-lactide polymer, (b) a copolymer of lactides, and (c) a poly-lactide polymer and a copolymer of lactides, the membrane comprising ~~an anti-sear forming agent,~~ including angiotensin antagonists; and
- (f) adapted to be resorbed into the mammalian body within a period of approximately 18 to 24 months from an initial implantation of the membrane into the mammalian body; and
placing the healing membrane adjacent to an opening in pericardial tissue of a patient so that the pericardial tissue surrounding the opening can regenerate over the membrane[;].

12-21. Cancelled.

22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the healing membrane is precontoured into a heart-shaped bag and the placing comprises placing the healing membrane to surround the apex of a heart.

23. (Previously Presented) A method for promoting healing of damaged tissue after an open heart surgery, the method comprising:

providing a substantially planar healing membrane, which is:

- (a) substantially-smooth on at least one side;
- (b) substantially uniform in composition;

- (c) about 10 microns to about 300 microns in thickness;
 - (d) non-porous;
 - (e) constructed from a resorbable polymer base material selected from the group consisting essentially of (a) a poly-lactide polymer, (b) a copolymer of lactides, and (c) a poly-lactide polymer and a copolymer of lactides, the healing membrane ~~is~~ being precontoured into a tube; and
 - (f) adapted to be resorbed into the mammalian body within a period of approximately 18 to 24 months from an initial implantation of the membrane into the mammalian body; and
- placing the healing membrane adjacent to an opening in pericardial tissue of a patient so that the pericardial tissue surrounding the opening can regenerate over the membrane, the placing comprising placing the healing membrane around the conduit of a left-ventricular assist device (LVAD).

24. (Previously Presented) A method for promoting healing of damaged tissue after an open heart surgery, the method comprising:

providing a substantially planar healing membrane, which is:

- (a) substantially-smooth on at least one side;
- (b) substantially uniform in composition;
- (c) about 10 microns to about 300 microns in thickness;
- (d) non-porous;
- (e) constructed from a resorbable polymer base material selected from the group consisting essentially of (a) a poly-lactide polymer, (b) a copolymer of lactides, and (c) a poly-lactide polymer and a copolymer of lactides, the healing membrane being precontoured; and
- (f) adapted to be resorbed into the mammalian body within a period of approximately 18 to 24 months from an initial implantation of the membrane into the mammalian body; and

placing the healing membrane adjacent to an opening in pericardial tissue of a patient so that the pericardial tissue surrounding the opening can regenerate over the membrane, the placing comprising placing the healing membrane over a pump of a left-ventricular assist device (LVAD).